

**United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region IV  
POLLUTION REPORT**

**Date:** Friday, May 16, 2008

**From:** Steve Spurlin, OSC

**To:** Tim Neal, ERRB  
Jose Negron, ERRB-ORS

Jim McGuire, ERRB, ROS

**Subject:** Removal Site Evaluation Polrep  
Clinton Smelter/Magnet Mills  
101 Collum Street, Clinton, TN  
Latitude: 36.6184  
Longitude: -84.7748

<b>POLREP No.:</b>	1	<b>Site #:</b>	ZZ
<b>Reporting Period:</b>		<b>D.O. #:</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b>		<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA
<b>Mob Date:</b>		<b>Response Type:</b>	Time-Critical
<b>Completion Date:</b>	5/1/2008	<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL
<b>CERCLIS ID #:</b>		<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Assessment
<b>RCRIS ID #:</b>		<b>Contract #</b>	

#### Site Description

The Site is located at 101 Collum Street, Clinton, Anderson County, Tennessee. The property borders the Clinch river. According to records provided by the Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation (TDEC), the Site has operated as some form of textile industry from 1906 to 1967. The property is currently owned by a property management company partnered with a salvage company who uses the buildings and land for storage of large quantities of salvaged materials. The remaining buildings on-site are full of salvage materials from commercial and residential demolitions.

Included in the items are drums and containers of chemicals, oils and greases the salvage operator collected as part of his salvage operations or purchased as part of a sale at a closing facility. Also, a number of old transformers remain on the property.

The TDEC requested EPA conduct a removal site evaluation of the property after the drums and transformers were noted by a TDEC inspector during a April 2008 site visit.

#### Current Activities

The TDEC had conducted a site visit on April 3, 2008, to investigate historical records that indicated the property may have been used as a lead/zinc ore smelting operation. During the site visit the TDEC inspector noted numerous drums in poor condition. There were discolored soils near drums and stained soils near several old transformers.

On April 9, 2008, TDEC forwarded the site information to EPA OSC Spurlin and requested EPA evaluate the site for a possible emergency or time critical removal action.



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On May 1, 2008, EPA OSC Spurlin met TDEC, Anderson County EMA, and the owner at the Site. Prior to arrival, the owner had conducted actions to improve the condition of the Site. Transformer oil had been drained and containerized from three transformer locations; stained soils around transformer pads had been excavated and containerized; leaking drums had contents transferred to other containers; and containers were moved under roof.

Approximately 108 containers, primarily 55-gallon drums, were stored in various buildings. Many of the drums were still factory sealed and stored on pallets. Many of these drums appeared to be oils, greases, and textile related chemicals that would not likely be classified as RCRA waste. According to the owner, most of the drum material had been on-site at least three years. He indicated he believed material was a marketable product.

Notable among the drums, were approximately 55 drums in the former boiler room. Many of these drums were labeled "methanol", a flammable liquid. Also, several were labeled "isopropyl alcohol", a flammable liquid. There were also approximately twelve drums containing transformer oils stored in two areas of the property.

EPA utilized START contractor, TTEMI, to document the site conditions and conduct sampling of selected drums and transformer pad areas. Sample results verified the presence of flammable materials, suspected to be the methanol and alcohol, and PCBs were detected in the transformer oils and soil around two pads. No PCB levels above 50 ppm were detected in the oil or soils.

#### Planned Removal Actions

Sampling and label information verify the presence of hazardous substances at the Site; however, the drums are currently stored inside buildings and no significant releases were noted. The owner was cooperative and expressed willingness to work with the appropriate regulatory agency to resolve any issues.

#### Next Steps

Site conditions meet the NCP criteria for a removal action; however, the TDEC has agreed to take the lead in working with owner to address site issues. If TDEC is unsuccessful in compelling the owner to complete the necessary actions to remove the threat of release of a hazardous substance at the Site, EPA may determine it is necessary to initiate a time critical removal action.

#### Estimated Costs \*

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
<b>Extramural Costs</b>				
<b>Intramural Costs</b>				
<b>Total Site Costs</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%

\* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an

exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

[www.epaosc.net/ClintonSmelterMagnetMills](http://www.epaosc.net/ClintonSmelterMagnetMills)